Technology for production of Bio-Diesel

1734. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad, has developed a technology for production of Bio-Diesel, Bio-Pesticides, Detergents and high value fertilizers from a plant Karanja (Pongamia) and is ready to transfer the process in the event of any Industrial unit ready to supply the raw material;

(b) if so, whether Government would take immediate steps to mobilize industries and give incentives to farmers for cultivating Pongamia plants on a massive scale to produce Bio-Diesel, Bio-Pesticides, Detergents and high value fertilizers; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes Sir. Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad is presently executing a project on development of Bio-diesel, Bio-pesticides, Detergents and Lubricants from karanja oil and deoiled cake. The status of technology development is as under:—

- IICT has developed a process for the production of Bio-diesel from karanja oil at lab scale and is in position to transfer the process to any interested industry in either batch or continuous mode.
- IICT is presently engaged in developing processes for Bio-pesticides, Detergents and Lubricants.
- IICT is not doing any specific research for the development of high value fertilizers from Karanja oilseed cake.

(b) A proposal for the approval of demonstration phase of the National Mission on Bio-diesel is under consideration of Group of Ministers.

(c) Does not arise.

National centre for traditional knowledge in food and medicine

1735. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for setting up National Centre for traditional knowledge in Food and Medicine in Kerala has been submitted by the Government of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) No, Sir. The Ministry of Science and Technology has not received any proposal for setting up National Centre for traditional knowledge in Food and Medicine in Kerala.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.